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USDA-2421

The Friday Newsletter

JUL 11 1991
CODY BRANCH

No. 26

1690-3

July 5, 1991

Celebration of 100 Years of Conservation

Last week was an exciting adventure for the Forest Service. In Cody, Wyoming, we celebrated the 100th anniversary of the National Forest System with a variety of special events hosted by the Shoshone National Forest, the citizens of Cody, and many others. A conservation forum, chaired by the American Forestry Association and the Boone and Crocket Club, was held on Thursday. Many of our partners had the opportunity to discuss conservation goals of the past and partnerships for the future. On June 28, Wyoming Governor Mike Sullivan was the master of ceremonies at a Centennial birthday party held at the Buffalo Bill Historical Center. On another evening, we were entertained by Gary Hines performing "Gifford Pinchot From the Other Side" at a barbeque hosted by a local ranch.

The rededication of the first forest reserve was held at the Wapiti Ranger Station. Over 2,000 people attended a barbeque, courtesy of the Cody Chamber of Commerce, TCI Cablevision, Marathon Oil, and others. The crowd was also entertained by old-time fiddlers, smokejumpers, antique vehicle displays, and beautiful scenery. "Pony Express" riders arrived at the site after traveling 500 miles throughout the greater Yellowstone area delivering mail and a Presidential message honoring the National Forest System Centennial. A mule pack string demonstration showed the traditional packing skills that were vital to the area in early days and are still being used in wilderness.

Other special Centennial events included an essay contest, a National Forest System stamp design contest, a pack string competition, a living history presentation, and an exhibition of art, artifacts, and historic photos. The USDA Assistant Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment, James Moseley, attended many of the functions. On July 4th, the city of Cody had a special parade as part of its annual stampede. Many of the entries in the parade commemorated the National Forest System Centennial. Chief Emeritus Max Peterson was the grand marshal.

Many members of our Forest Service family deserve recognition for the remarkable organization and presentation of this historic event. I also want to give special thanks to our many partners who helped to sponsor this commemoration of our heritage. I especially want to recognize the people of Cody, Wyoming, for their enthusiastic and generous support. The development of the National Forest System is due to the vision and hard work of these kinds of people.

RF&D Held in Cody

The quarterly RF&D meeting was held in Cody, Wyoming, prior to the Centennial activities. This session focused on the future role of conservation organizations and the direction our agency is taking to meet future challenges. We discussed many of the current issues that the Forest Service is facing and affirmed our commitment to multiple-use management.

Good stewardship and multiple-use management are the cornerstones of the Forest Service. We are committed to enhancing recreation, wildlife, and fisheries resources; ensuring environmentally acceptable commodity production; improving scientific knowledge; and responding to global resource issues as supported by the 1990 RPA Program.

We discussed the importance of partnerships and working together to accomplish mutual goals. We rely on the creativity and dedication of Forest Service employees to respond to emerging needs of the Nation.

We benefited greatly this year from reviewing our heritage in natural resource management. We look to the future with renewed enthusiasm as we focus on the long-term health, diversity, and productivity of the land.

FS Works with Student Association To Encourage Engineering Careers

As part of our continued emphasis on increasing workforce diversity, the Forest Service has signed a participating agreement with the Technology Student Association (TSA). This agreement provides opportunities for us to work with middle-school-age and high-school-age students. We hope to encourage their interest in technical careers and introduce them to the Forest Service as a great career for engineers and engineering technicians.

The President's Task Force on Women, Minorities, and the Handicapped in Science and Technology stated that the United States' present scientific and engineering workforce is eroding due to retirements and declining student interest. Federal agencies are encouraged to use their research and development programs with elementary and secondary school children to develop a more diverse, world-class science and engineering workforce. Furthermore, they are encouraged to open their laboratory facilities to provide hands-on experiences for students and teachers, especially those traditionally underrepresented in science and engineering.

TSA is a nonprofit student organization dedicated to preparing youth to live and work in a technical society. The association is chartered in 43 States and has over 75,000 members. Over the past 12 years, TSA has provided opportunities for students to develop leadership, scientific, technical, and social abilities through local chapters that compete in local, state, and national competitions.

As part of the agreement, the Forest Service helped sponsor a bridge building competition at TSA's national conference held in Tulsa, Oklahoma, June 22-26, 1991. Lee Collett, Jack Arrowsmith, and Kathy Burgers represented the Washington Office, and Pauline Cahill attended from the Southern Region. The Missoula Technology and Development Center constructed a "bridge buster" to test the strength of wooden-bridge models for the structural engineering competition. Conference participants competed in such events as computer-aided design, structural engineering, technology problem solving, extemporaneous speech, and research and design.

Forest Service employees presented a special interest session focusing on building educational opportunities and relationships for a career in engineering as well as building bridge structures. We are proud of the programs that engineering and other staff groups provide to increase the knowledge and awareness of our youth in technical, scientific, and conservation fields.

Sirmon Named First Deputy Chief for IF

Jeff Sirmon, former deputy chief for Programs and Legislation, is the first deputy chief for International Forestry. Jeff was selected for this position when Secretary of Agriculture Edward Madigan announced the establishment of an Office of International Forestry Programs in the Forest Service. Information about this exciting program will be included in subsequent newsletters.

New Deputy Chief for Programs and Legislation

Mark Reimers has been appointed deputy chief for Programs and Legislation. Mark has served as director of the Legislative Affairs staff and associate deputy chief for Programs and Legislation. In 1990 he was selected for a 1-year assignment as a senior programme officer for forests and other ecosystems with the United Nations Environment Programme in Nairobi, Kenya. Tom Mills, director of the Resources Program and Assessment Staff, will be the new associate deputy for Programs and Legislation.

**New Station Director
for Pacific
Southwest**

Barbara Weber has been selected as the new director of the Pacific Southwest Forest and Range Experiment Station. Barbara has served as a legislative resources specialist in Programs and Legislation and a staff assistant to the deputy chief for Research in Washington, DC. She has also worked as a Congressional fellow of the American Political Science Association on Capitol Hill in both the House and the Senate.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "F. Dale Robertson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "F" and a long, sweeping underline.

Chief